

Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee

Tuesday 13th September 2011, – At a meeting of the Committee held at 7 pm at The John de Bohun Room, Rustington.

Present:

West Sussex County Council Dr Walsh, Mr Tyler, Mrs Urquhart,

Arun District Council Councillor Mr Steward, Councillor Mrs Hazlehurst (Chairman), Councillor Mr R Bower, Councillor Mrs Bowyer, Councillor Mr R Elkins and Councillor Mrs Emberson

Town / Parish Council representatives Councillor Mr Mountain (Angmering), Councillor Mrs Robertson (Ferring), Councillor Mrs Lines (Rustington), Councillor Mrs Walker (Kingston) (Vice Chairman) and Councillor Mr Melser (East Preston)

In attendance:

West Sussex County Council: Sue Furlong (Principal Community Safety Officer and Monique Smart (Democratic Services Officer).

Arun District Council: Wendy Ashenden-Bax (Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer) and Karl Roberts (Assistant Director - Planning Services and Housing Strategy)

Chairman's Welcome

52. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

53. Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Evans, Mr Peters and Councillor Mrs Neno.

54. The Chairman welcomed Sue Furlong, Principal Community Safety Officer. Sue Furlong went on to explain her new role and how this would differ from the role that Richard Bennett previously provided to JEAAC. Her main role would be to work with Parish, Town and District Councils and provide support in finding solutions to local priorities. This will include highways issues but also other areas such as library and youth services. Sue will also provide the support to JEAAC and its H&T Sub Group.

Declarations of interest

55. In accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, the following personal interests were declared:

- Mrs Joyce Bower as a Member of Littlehampton Town Council, Arun District Council and Littlehampton Harbour Board – Item 10.
- Mrs Carol Emberson as a Member of Littlehampton Town Council
- Dr Walsh as a Member of Littlehampton Town Council and Arun District Council

- Mr Graham Tyler -Item 10 as he is the applicant. Also as a Member of Arun District Council.

Minutes

56. **Resolved** – that the minutes of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee, held on 14th June 2011, and the minutes of the special Adults' Grants meetings held on 8th July 2011, be confirmed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

Progress Statement

57. The Committee had before it a progress statement on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed minutes). Comment/queries were as follows:

- Roadside Vehicle Sales. Sue Furlong confirmed that this had been brought to her attention in July and with colleagues she was actively working to progress this and was confident that a contract would be in place before the New Year. Members expressed dissatisfaction about the amount of time this was taking to get resolved. It was suggested that the three Chairmen of the Joint Area Committees get together to push this forward.
- Alternative Route to Sea Lane into Rustington. Dr James Walsh confirmed that the costings were not available for the H&T Sub group to discuss at their last meeting and therefore a report would be presented to the next H&T Sub Group meeting on 21st November.

'Talk with Us' – Public Questions

58. There were no public questions.

Community Police Issues

59. The Chairman welcomed Chief Inspector for the Arun Area, Jane Derrick, who provided an update on crime statistics and current issues and in the JEAAC area. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- Chief Inspector Derrick reassured members that local issues and cover was not affected by Sussex Police Officers being sent to London to cover the recent unrest.
- Burglary and crime figures for the area are down.
- A plea to encourage people to lock cars and hide away electronic equipment such as sat navs.
- Inspector Derrick encouraged the public, members and traders to report incidences as they happen.
- Confirmed that the new West Sussex Division had been effective for 6 months and the new model of policing was working well with response times being met.
- Confirmation that Chief Inspector Derrick would be attending a meeting in the next week about the issues around the recent Traveller encampment in Angmering.

- Chief Inspector Derrick extended an invitation to all Councillors to come out with her Officers.

Exercise Watermark

60. The Chairman welcomed Mr. David Bonner from the Environment Agency who went on to provide a PowerPoint presentation on the outcomes of Exercise Watermark (copy appended to the signed minutes). Exercise Watermark was a national emergency flooding exercise that took place in March 2011 to test the arrangements across England and Wales to respond to severe, wide-area flooding. Following the presentation, a number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- It was confirmed that Utility Companies also have a duty to have resilience plans in place.
- Councillor Mrs Walker asked what the Environment Agency was doing on higher ground to alleviate flooding particularly in regard to the river rife and Kingston and Ferring Parishes. Mr Bonner confirmed that the Environment Agency maintain defences and monitor the rivers.
- Some members raised concern about the level of maintenance in local rivers. Mr Bonner agreed to pass on the details of the Officer who was responsible for the maintenance planning.
- Wendy Ashenden-Bax asked if any dispensation could be given during the nesting season to allow maintenance and clearing to go ahead. Mr Bonner confirmed that this would need to be pushed at a national level to get legislation changed.
- Mr Bonner confirmed that the Action Plan that resulted from Exercise Watermark had a set timetable and had been fully signed up to deliver.

Community Initiative Funding

61. The Committee considered a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (copy appended to the signed minutes), which sought decisions from the County Council Members of the Committee on the applications received under the CIF scheme.

62. **Resolved** that the County Council Members of the Committee approved the following applications and amount of Community Initiative Funding:

1648/JEAAC, Jamie's Wish Trust, £1,000 granted for a laptop and bingo machine and towards a storage shed.

1649/JEAAC, 1st East Preston Scout Group, £1,000 granted for the purchase of itemised items of equipment for a one-off camping trip.

1650/JEAAC, East Preston Festival Committee, £1,500 granted for various items towards staging community cinema throughout Autumn/Winter.

1653/JEAAC, Ferring Probus Club, £1,000 granted for the purchase of a projector and screen for club presentations.

The County Councillor of the Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee also decided to merge the Parish Initiative Fund with the Community Initiative Fund.

Appointment of School Governors

63. The Committee considered a report by Director of Operations Learning (copy appended to the signed minutes), which set out proposed nominations to school governing bodies and the criteria for their appointment and sought decisions from the County Council Members of the Committee on the applications received.

64. Resolved that the following be re-appointed as School Governor:

- Mr. G Tyler to Georgian Gardens Primary School for a 4 year term.

New Homes Bonus

65. The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Director of Planning & Housing Strategy, regarding Arun District Council decision to distribute New Homes Bonus funding (Arun District Council portion) via the Joint Arun Area Committees. The recommendation asked the Parish and Town Councils to determine the governance arrangements for agreeing the expenditure of the £17,000 allocated to the JEAAC area.

66. The Chairman welcomed Karl Roberts, Assistant Director of Planning & Housing Strategy, who went on to advise JEAAC that the same report had been presented to JDAC and JWAAC and JDAC had added the money to a project already underway using the previously granted LAA Reward money. JWAAC Parishes had agreed to set up a new group and determine best use of this money.

67. It was suggested and agreed that JEAAC Parish Councillors set up a sub group to consider best use of this money. In the absence of Councillor Mrs Emma Neno, Councillor Mrs Joyce Bowyer nominated Littlehampton Town Council to lead the group and arrange the first meeting.

68. Resolved that Mrs Joyce Bowyer, on behalf of Littlehampton Town Council, set up and arrange the first meeting of a sub group consisting of one Parish Councillor from each Parish within JEAAC.

Highways and Transport Sub Group

70. The Chairman referred the Committee to the notes of the last meeting of the Highways and Transport Sub Group (copy appended to the signed minutes), and asked Dr James Walsh, Chairman of the Highways and Transport Sub Group, to run through any issues. The Committee discussed a number of issues, which included those set out below:

- The membership of the H&T sub group was discussed and Arun District Councillors expressed concern that the group did not have a District Councillor representative. Dr James Walsh confirmed that the group currently consisted of 14 Councillors and five of those are also Members of Arun District Council. The Committee took a full vote of all 14 Members present and only three were in favour of amending the Membership of the H&T Sub Group. Therefore no change will be made.
- Dr James Walsh confirmed that he had written on behalf of the H&T Sub Group with concerns about the proposals for the land south of the bypass at the Windmill Bridge. He understands that new plans are being drawn up and would go through the normal planning approval process.

- Mrs Urquhart requested an update on the banning of HGVs in Angmering Village. Sue Furlong undertook to check this and get back to Mrs Urquhart.

Priorities for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs)

71. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Communities and Infrastructure (copy appended to signed minutes). The report outlined arrangements for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and asked the County Council Members of the Committee to approve the priority order for implementing TROs in 2011/12 within the JEAAC area as set out in the Appendix. A number of issues were discussed including those set out below:

- The Sub Group recommends approving the top three as listed.
- It was clarified that the changes to disabled bays proposed for Sterling Parade and Churchill Parade would result in an increase of four bays in Churchill Parade and a decrease to two at Sterling Parade.
- Councillor Ray Steward requested further details on what was proposed for Eldon Way. Sue Furlong undertook to send this information to Mr Steward.

72. Resolved that the County Council Members of the Committee approve the priority order for implementing Traffic Regulation Orders within the JEAAC Area as set out below.

- 1 Rustington -Sterling Parade & Churchill Parade, Disabled bays
- 2 Ferring – South Ferring various, Consolidation of speed limits
- 3 East Preston – B2140 Worthing Road, Waiting restrictions

Items for future meetings.

73. The following items were agreed:

- Localism/Big Society/Community Action Plan – confirmed presentation for 6th December
- Infrastructure Planning

Date of next meeting

74. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 6th December 2011 at The New Millennium Chamber, Littlehampton Town Council. Members wishing to place an item on the agenda should notify Monique Smart via e-mail: Monique.smart@westsussex.gov.uk or on (01243) 752730.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Chairman